OFFICE OF
THE SELECTMEN
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SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
MONDAY OCTOBER 21, 2019

Present: Parker Lord, John Kiker, Steven Mattson

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 P.M. and the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

A tax refund was approved in the amount of $61.23.

The board was provided copies of the first quarter FY 19/20 financial report as discussed with the Board of Finance at their meeting on 10/15/19. The town is right on target for the first 3 months of the year. The board approved a request to overspend the town trucks account (#6640) by up to $30,000 to allow for the purchase of a new sand/salt loader that could not be found on the used market at the price and capabilities needed. It is expected that this overspending will be offset in other accounts and not result in a total budget overage.

The CT Department of Public Health has published new estimates of the population in each town. Lyme's population now stands at 2,338; a decrease of 16 from last year.

The Board of Selectmen will meet this week with the contractor mowing many of our town cemeteries to discuss expanding the locations being served. This should result in a reduction of the town road crew's need for mowing and achieve a reduction in the costs involved.

The modified recycling center continues to operate smoothly and receive positive feedback from the users. Signage and security cameras should be installed this week. The CT State Police have agreed to issue citations to chronic abusers of the facility based upon the video evidence compiled.

The Lyme's Senior Center Building Committee has held their first meeting with the intent of determining if an expansion of the facility is needed given the increase in membership and programs offered. The Board's of Selectmen from each town have prepared the charge to lead the committee's work. Lyme stressed the need for the committee to take a complete review of the center's program needs and take a 20+ year approach to the optimal size and configuration of the present facility and any required expansion.

The Region 18 Board of Education will hold a budget development kick-off meeting on November 6, 2019 and all Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance members are invited to attend.

The First Selectman designated John Evans to represent the town on the Rivercog's NHMP update steering committee. The committee will update the municipalities natural hazard mitigaton plans.

The Ambulance and Fire Services have jointly agreed to a Supplemental First Responder (R1S) service to better serve the town. The Fire Company's R1S team will also be able to respond to medical emergencies with trained personnel to enhance the medical services response to residents. The town's website and social media will publicize this cooperative agreement.

Based upon a well-reasoned suggestion by a resident, the board discussed the pros and cons of removing Birch Mill Bridge rather than replacing the structure. Such an action would restore the natural wetland conditions and create the need for turn around areas on both ends of what would become dead ends of Birch Mill Road. The feasibility of such a decision and the cost impacts to the town will be further researched and resident's opinions solicited.

Selectman Kiker reported on the need to upgrade the web hosting platform of the town's website at a nominal cost. Approval was given for this upgrade to be implemented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Mattson
For the Board of Selectmen